

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Transportation is a large and diverse industry with more than 3 million employees who are a potential army of eyes and ears to monitor for security threats and highway danger; and,

Whereas, There has been a sharp increase in traffic congestion, crime, and road rage that make our nation's highways more treacherous and make providing assistance to those in need more challenging than ever before in history; and,

Whereas, There are more than 83,000 wireless calls from motorists to emergency centers each day, and there are more than 41,000 traffic fatalities each year, with approximately one-half of these deaths occurring before victims reach medical care facilities; and,

Whereas, Highway Watch strives to reduce the number of highway accidents, serious injuries, and deaths through the identification of unsafe drivers, drunken driving, poor road or weather conditions, poor highway or construction zone signage, and motorists displaying road rage, and to protect the nation's infrastructure; and,

Whereas, Highway Watch is a volunteer effort of dedicated transportation sector employees who are committed to guarding the welfare of the motoring public and strengthening the security of the United States. Through the Highway Watch program, an elite group of transportation sector employees are specially trained to use their wireless location and communicating technology to report accidents, breakdowns, hazardous conditions and other highway dangers; and,

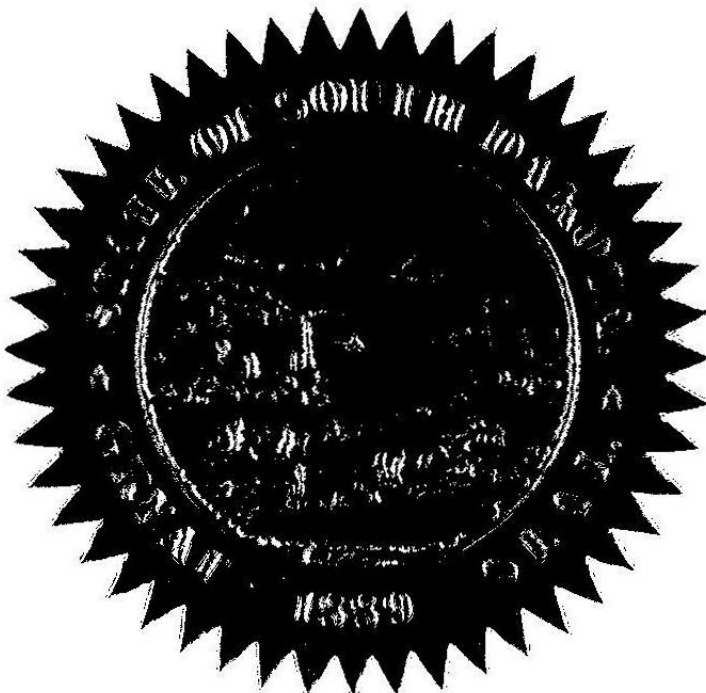
Whereas, The American Trucking Associations, in partnership with the Transportation Security Administration, administer Highway Watch by providing grant money to participating states. The American Trucking Associations report that Highway Watch is formed through a network of partnerships, including the trucking industry, law enforcement agencies, and state and federal departments of transportation; and,

Whereas, The South Dakota Trucking Association is willing to operate the Highway Watch program within the state and establish the basic operational procedures of the program concerning, without limitation, driver qualification, training format, frequency of training sessions, and recruitment of drivers and safety directors:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 2005, as

SOUTH DAKOTA HIGHWAY WATCH MONTH

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-sixth Day of January in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. Michael Rounds".

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Chris Nelson".

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State